

we are talking about listing responsibilities of the energy office and now we specified the director and basically they are one of the same. Perhaps I don't understand the amendment and maybe Senator Venditte could explain what the difference is.

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Venditte, do you yield?

SENATOR VENDITTE: Members of the Legislature, I think that the intent of this particular amendment was simply to do this. That any mandate that comes from the Federal Energy Office that it would give, and I think Senator Cullan if you would look at the last two lines of Section 3, subsection 5, as may be requested or required of the state by the Federal Government. So, in essence Senator Cullan what it does, it just simply gives the Director of the Office on Energy the responsibility to carry out whatever is mandated by that Federal Office or the federal mandate.

SENATOR CULLAN: Then you said to bypass the Governor's office in doing so?

SENATOR VENDITTE: I think Senator Cullan with the expertise that would be manned by that particular staff I would have enough confidence in our director to mandate and I think what some of the problems that we have today relative to energy, there are so many political strings attached, so many people must screen and sift through all of what we must do, I would think that just adding this particular amendment to LB232 would simply enhance whatever must be mandated.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the legislature. I do not have the amendment before me but based on what...on how Senator Venditte described it, I think that I would be opposed to it. I'm not sure that we should have a department bypassing the governor. I'm not sure that that is proper. So, at this point, until at least I could find out...see it in writing or maybe have some more explanation. I would urge us to reject the amendment.

SENATOR MARVEL: There are no other lights Senator Venditte, do you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR VENDITTE: Other than to say Mr. President, I think that as we are looking at the entire energy picture, I don't think that we can leave it to the people of this country as well as to this state. It is kind of interesting, I think, if you will just reflect back to the...to the hard times of this winter past, you will find that when the American people found that the energy crisis was a serious crisis that we reduced energy consumption in the United States by as much as 12%. You know just recently with the good weather it has gone back up at an unprecedented rate. To me it seems that if we are going to have any type of energy conservation measures go into effect in our country they are going to have to be mandatory. With that Mr. President, I will.....move and I will move.

SENATOR MARVEL: Okay, the motion is the adoption of the Venditte amendment to 232. All those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record.